

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, please call Megan Graham at (970)382-6265

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## La Plata County offers grants to small businesses for COVID costs

La Plata County introduces La Plata Cares, a grant opportunity made to support businesses located in the county that have been impacted by COVID-19. La Plata County engaged Local First to administer these funds, in partnership with Aid to All, a web-based platform that will be used for applications and eligibility determination.

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to eligible for-profit and nonprofit businesses to assist with direct impacts from COVID-19. A total of \$810,000 is available with the potential of up to \$1 million, depending on need and availability. La Plata Cares funding originated from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs' COVID-19 Relief Fund, passing through federal CARES Act dollars to local communities.

Funds must be used to reimburse businesses for necessary expenditures incurred between March 1 and December 30 due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Applications will be accepted October 5-23, with awards announced by November 1. The goal of the La Plata Cares grant program is to help offset the financial burden the small business community has faced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Local First will hold a webinar at 11. a.m., Thursday, Oct. 1 to explain the La Plata Cares program and answer questions from potential applicants. To join, use the following links or phone numbers:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81071606098

Meeting ID: 810 7160 6098

Or dial in, using the meeting ID at:

(669)900-6833 (253)215-8782

For general questions, please contact <a href="mailto:laplatacares@local-first.org">laplatacares@local-first.org</a>. For technical support, please contact <a href="mailto:info@aidtoall.org">info@aidtoall.org</a>.

